



Residential Landscaping Standards Guide

Introduction

Wellington has adopted regulations outlining the installation, removal and maintenance of landscaping. Wellington's landscape regulations were enacted to help maintain the aesthetic qualities of our neighborhoods maintain and promote property values and ultimately foster our goal of being a great hometown.

This brochure has been developed to explain some of those standards. Use the following information as a guide to evaluate your property and to decide if anything requires attention.

Yard and Landscaping Maintenance

Provide maintenance of all landscaping in a way that presents a healthy, neat and orderly appearance. All landscaping shall be maintained free from disease, pests, weeds and litter. This maintenance shall include weeding, watering, fertilizing, pruning, mowing, edging, mulching or other maintenance, as needed, consistent with acceptable horticultural practices.

Landscaping and barrier hedges are required to be trimmed and maintained in a healthy and neat condition and cannot extend onto or over public properties, rights-of-ways or easements



Grass, weeds and underbrush need to be maintained within the following standards:

- Less than six inches in height on developed lots.
- Less than twelve inches in height on undeveloped lots

Vegetative Waste

Vegetative waste, resulting from yard and landscaping maintenance that cannot be broken down to fit in a waste container may be placed on the unpaved public right-of-way **no more** than 24-hours prior to scheduled pickup. Small loose materials such as leaves, trimmings, fruit, seeds, small fronds and weeds must be put in a container. Those containers may be put out as noted for garbage cans above. If your backyard abuts a major thoroughfare, vegetative waste may **NOT** be placed on the major thoroughfare right-of-way due to potential safety hazards during pickup.



Vegetative waste, except palm fronds, must be no more than six feet in length and no single item shall weigh more than 50 pounds. Wellington will not pick up stumps or rootballs

It is the property owner's responsibility to assure proper removal and disposal of debris caused by the removal of any trees or vegetation. Wellington may not pick up excessive debris, debris in front of an undeveloped lot or debris that is not cut and/or bundled appropriately.

Tree Pruning Standards

It is recommended that tree trimming be completed by July; prior to the peak of hurricane season.

Tree topping (hat racking) is prohibited and shall be defined as the cutting back of limbs to a point between branch collars/buds, larger than one (1) inch in diameter within the tree's crown. A maximum of one fourth (.25) of a tree canopy may be removed from a tree within a one (1) year period. All pruning shall comply with the ANSI 300-1995 Tree, Shrub and Woody Plant Maintenance.

Trees damaged by prohibited tree pruning practices may result in the property owner being assessed a fine and/or be required to remove and replace tree.



All debris generated by a landscape/tree contractor must be removed by the contractor prior to or at the time of leaving the site.

Debris generated by a homeowner can be placed for collection 24 hours prior to their scheduled collection. If you live in an HOA please see them for any other regulations.

Vegetation Removal Permits Required

A vegetation removal permit is required prior to the removal of all trees, including dead trees or invasive non-native vegetation (Melaleuca, Brazilian pepper, Australian pine, etc)

Speculative clearing of developed or undeveloped lots is prohibited.

Please contact the Zoning Department at 561-791-4000 for visit www.wellingtonfl.gov for additional information and requirements.

Landscape Service Registration

All tree and landscaping services shall register with Wellington and obtain a registration of occupancy or business tax receipt before beginning work. The registration must be renewed annually prior to September 30 of each year.



Landscaping and tree service businesses working in Wellington shall adhere to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), A-300 standards or similar accepted standards as published, except for service to prohibited trees.

Hedge Height

Hedges up to a maximum of 6 feet in height are permitted in rear and side setbacks, except as otherwise noted. The height of a fence, wall, or hedge shall be measured from the lower of the average grade of property line on which the fence, wall or hedge is located when the elevation of the property has been increased. A waiver for an increase in hedge height may be granted by the Architectural Review Board (ARB).



Hedges may not be located closer than 5 feet to the front plane of the principal structure. Hedges shall not be located closer than 3 feet to any street right-of-way.

Properties located within Residential Designation “A” or “B”:

Hedges are permitted up to a maximum of eight (8) feet in height for properties of not less than one (1) acre in size.

Hedge heights in excess of eight (8) feet for properties of not less than one (1) acre in size may be permitted only if approved by the Planning and Zoning Adjustment Board (PZAB). To locate your property please visit www.wellingtonfl.gov and select Maps/Data from the home page. Within the Maps/Data page please navigate to Map Gallery, Future Land Use Map.

Major Thoroughfare Requirements

Wellington requires properties that abut major thoroughfare roadways maintain landscaping in a neat and healthy appearance. Except in the Equestrian Preserve Area, all fences installed abutting a Major Thoroughfare require a hedge and are required to be maintained at a height of six (6) feet. Please see the Hedge Height section of this brochure for more information concerning height requirements.

Vegetative waste may NOT be placed on the major thoroughfare right-of-way due to potential safety hazards during pickup.

Major Thoroughfare Roadways include:

- Aero Club Drive
- Big Blue Trace
- Bink's Forest Drive
- Birkdale Drive
- Fairlane Farms Road
- Forest Hill Boulevard
- Greenbriar Boulevard
- Greenview Shores Boulevard
- Lake Worth Road
- Paddock Drive west of Big Blue Trace
- Pierson Road
- South Shore Boulevard
- Wellington Trace

IF YOU RECEIVE A NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Please take prompt action to correct the violation. If you have questions or if you are working toward correcting the violation, but need additional time due to special circumstances, please call the Code Compliance Office at 753-2560 as soon as possible.

If prompt action is not taken to bring the violation into compliance, you may be served with a Notice of Hearing requiring your appearance before the Special Magistrate.

The Special Magistrate will hear the case and issue an order directing you to correct the violation within a specified period of time. The costs incurred by the Code Compliance Division in the prosecution of a case may be assessed. Failure to pay the costs assessed and correct the violation by the time specified in the Order may result in a lien placed against the property.